

VAMPI  
#97



WARREN  
MAGAZINE

JULY 1981

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# VAMPIRELLA



VAMPIRELLA'S  
LIFE HANGS  
IN THE  
BALANCE  
WHEN THE  
MINIONS OF  
HELL RISE  
FROM THE  
GRAVE...

"IN THE 'ARMY OF THE DEAD'!"



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# STAR WARS

## THE MOST EXCITING NEW MODELS AVAILABLE!

**NEW!**



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**NEW!**



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To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine  
for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



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traps Vampirella  
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JULY 1981

# VAMPIRELLA

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# Vampi's Scarlet Letters

**V**AMPIRELLA #95 provided one of the most pleasurable comic repasts I've had in the three years I've been collecting. The VAMPIRELLA story, "Plague of Vampire," was an inspired collaboration between Rudy Nebres and Rich Margopoulos which left me breathless. However, the Pantha story, "Reflections in Blood" was no more than adequate. "The Fox" stunk, to put it mildly! Ye Gods, how could something as boring as that slither into the magazine?

What made the issue great was the wonderful, splendidious Cassandra St. Knight! "The Initiation" deserved all of the sixteen pages it got, and more! Cass, due to the excellent artwork by Auraleon, was the most beautiful, the most seductive, and the most alluring female character I have ever seen in any comic of any kind! Cassandra has long since proven that she is a first class super heroine!

**KEYTH BLAZE**  
(Address withheld)

A few months ago I wrote a letter terming issue #92 pure and unadulterated *garbage*. I still think it was. But I am grateful to see that it did not mark the end of quality in VAMPIRELLA! Issue #95 was a gem! It sparkled with the brilliance of a jewel as I added it to my collection. A terrific cover by Ken Kelly was but a prelude! A truly voluptuous contents page illustrated by the master, Jose Gonzales, immediately followed the Kelly cover. The issue was filled with great stories that were beautifully illustrated. I was so dazzled I even began to enjoy the Captain Company ads!

The Vampiress story demonstrated that Rich Margopoulos is definitely capable of handling the Drakulonne extraordinaire. Rudy Nebres' art is definitely improving, though Vampi's face is still all wrong!!! Cassandra St. Knight wears bikinis that defy the laws of physics! She kills robots with mental blasts when we all know that robots do not have brains, as such. How could a brain blast kill a brainless creature? The Pantha story succeeded despite being laden with an old, hackneyed plot, due to the supertative efforts of Jose Ortiz' artwork. Finally, I think you have the real makings of a tremendous serial with "The Fox." Its compelling art and terrific story line show great promise! Keep "The Fox" going as long as possible, and I'll never say another negative word about Warren Publishing again!

**REX JOYNER**  
South Bend, Ind.

For the first time in a long time I liked the entire issue of VAMPIRELLA! The cover by Ken Kelly on issue #95 was superb! Where in his imagination does he find those nightmare creatures? Seeing poor VAMPI tied up and at the mercy of that hideous thing made my blood run cold. The VAMPI story was more than good, it was excellent! Rich Margopoulos kept the story moving along at a taut, tight clip and Rudy Nebres' art made it dynamite!

I liked Cassandra St. Knight is a super new character! I look forward to seeing more of her stories in the pages of every VAMPIRELLA! And then of course there's Pantha. Will Adam Van Helsing be back in the VAMPIRELLA series? I hope so. I was very surprised to see Conrad Van Helsing turn up in the Pantha series.

I would also like to know what's happening to Pendragon? I do agree with Cryssie that Pen sounds evil. I hope you're not going to change his personality because of his daughter's death. I wouldn't want to see a nice old man like Pendragon turn into an angry, embittered, evil person. And one more thing: will "The Fox" be a series or merely a three part story? I think it would make an interesting series.

**LISA VERNON**  
Binghamton, N.Y.

Well Lisa, we were able to grant two of your wishes! In this very issue of Vampiress, Adam and Pantha turn up in a superb Vampiress story illustrated by one of Vampi's classic artists: Gonzalo Mayo! Cassandra St. Knight will indeed be a regular visitor to the pages of Vampiress and The Fox will have five initial installments.

I have a few bones to pick with the editors of Warren Magazines! Why are there no black characters in a Warren publication? This issue came up way back in VAMPIRELLA #69 in a letter concerning your Pantha character. Pantha started out as black and magically became white! VAMPIRELLA #69 appeared in 1978. I'm sure the artists, writers and editors have had more than enough time to fill in those pale spots with a little ink. Don't black readers deserve to see a few black characters from time to time? Don't tell me "It's not as easy as you think to create new characters." I've heard it before. I was ten years old when the black Pantha first appeared. How long must I wait before I see her like again?

**LEE DAVIS**  
Buffalo, N.Y.

VAMPIRELLA #95, was a superb, excellent, fanastic, far-out issue! Rich Margopoulos, as we all know by now, is the best Warren writer since Bill DuBay. He keeps the reader in suspense. However, any effects he may plan with his pen, Rudy Nebres ruins with his brush. Nebres is a truly crappy, sloppy artist. "Plague of Vampires" was a fine story. How could the editor let Nebres ruin it? Cassandra St. Knight is a bore and a waste of time. Pantha, on the other hand, is wonderful. Her stories are always full of excitement. "The Fox" was great. I am chomping at the bit with anticipation waiting for the conclusion. I loved the cover by Ken Kelly. That squid creature was deliciously frightening. I wish I could have seen Vampiress beat the heck out of it.

Now, if so many people are complaining about Nebres, why do you keep him? I'm begging you; please let Jose Ortiz, or Gonzalo Mayo have their shot, or the living legend himself... Jose Gonzales!

**NICHOLAS BARRACATO**  
Staten Island, N.Y.

The contents page illustration in VAMPIRELLA #95 was simply the best ever! I have been a fan of Jose Gonzales for quite some time, but he once again managed to knock my socks off with his superlative artwork. The detail, shading, pose, and mood that comprise a Gonzales artwork cannot be surpassed anywhere else in the fantasy art field. The man is a genius!

I very much enjoyed "The Fox". It was very well illustrated and composed. Of course it would help to understand the Oriental mind in order to fully appreciate the story.

I have nothing but the best to say about all of Warren's publications. With each issue they all seem to improve in quality. Writing, illustrating, editing-top notch in all respects, even down to the fact that my issues always arrive in mint condition. My compliments and my thanks.

**RONALD A. MAWHINNEY**  
Janesville, WI

**Vampi's  
Scarlet Letters**  
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"IT WAS TERRIFYING! I WAS STANDING IN MY ROOM ONE MOMENT! THE NEXT, I WAS GRAPPLING WITH TWO WINGED DEMONS. HAULED BEFORE A RAVING MADMAN!"

"ATTEND MY WORDS, VAMPIRELLA! I AM BROTHER SHADRACH, NEWLY ANOINTED ANTI-POPE OF THE COUNCIL OF WIZARDS!"

"THE ONE CALLED PENDRAGON IS MY HELPLESS CAPTIVE! IF YOU WISH TO SPARE HIS WORTHLESS LIFE, THEN I SUGGEST YOU'D BEST GO TO HELLHOLE!"

"HELLHOLE?  
YOU MEAN THAT  
OLD DESERT GHOST TOWN?  
WAIT! I STILL HAVE MORE  
QUESTIONS! DON'T FADE  
OUT ON ME!  
DON'T...!"

\*SEE VAMPIRELLA #8

# VAMPIRELLA







\*SEE VAMPIRELLA #73



WHAT'S  
THE WORD, VAMP?  
ANY LUCK?

NO! IT  
WAS CRYSSIE WHO  
ANSWERED THE PHONE! SHE  
SAYS THERE'S STILL NO SIGN  
OF PEN! IT SEEMS SHADRACH'S  
THREAT WAS CERTAINLY  
NO BLUFF!

WE'D BETTER  
BE ON OUR WAY TO  
HELLHOLE... AND FIND OUT  
WHAT THE COUNCIL WANTS  
FROM US IN RETURN FOR  
PEN'S LIFE!



# ARMY OF THE DEAD!



HEY.  
DON'T SWEAT  
IT. VAMPS? PENS  
BEEN IN TIGHTER  
BINDS BEFORE!  
WE'LL RESCUE  
HIS CHESTNUTS!  
YOU JUST  
WATCH!

I  
KNOW,  
PANTHI!

LOOK!  
THERE'S AN IN-  
DIAN AHEAD THUMB-  
ING A RIDE IN THE  
MIDDLE OF NO-  
WHERE!

AND  
WITH THE DESERT  
WIND KICKING UP,  
IT'S GETTING  
DOWNRIGHT  
CHILLY!

IF WE WEREN'T  
DRIVING SMACK INTO DANGER,  
I'D BE TEMPTED TO PULL  
OVER AND GIVE HIM...

STILL, HE'S  
BEEN SO DESPONDENT  
SINCE I ACCIDENTALLY KILLED  
HIS DAUGHTER! I CAN'T  
HELP BUT WORRY  
ABOUT HIM!

\*IT HAPPENED IN VAMPIRELLA #33

A LIFT!

HE  
IT'S LUNGING RIGHT  
FOR THE CAR!

A-ADAM—!







## prologue



# ST. K N i g h t C A S S A N D R A



# MANY FACES OF GOD

Author RICH MARGOPOULOS Illustrator: AURALEON









...UNTIL, MANY MINUTES LATER, HE FINALLY REACHED HIS OBJECTIVE: THE PENTHOUSE SUITE OF CASSANDRA ST. KNIGHT



HARRY'S WONDERING EYES SAW CASSINDRA ST. KNIGHT FLOATING IN MID-AIR, APPARENTLY CONVERSING WITH THREE SPECTRAL FIGURES!



AS THE SILVER-TRESSED PSYCHIC GENTLY LOWERED HERSELF TO THE FLOOR, HER GREEN EYES SNAPPED OPEN, INSTANTLY ALERT!



NADIR! WARM UP THE SEDAN! THE LUNA CULTISTS HAVE AN ASHRAM\* OUT ON A LONG ISLAND ESTATE

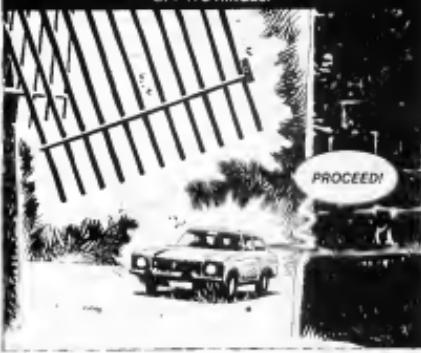


AS IF HARRY'S PRESENCE HAD DISTURBED THE COSMOS, THE ROOM'S SOFT EFULGENT GLOW DIMMED AND THE FIGURES VANISHED!

A LITTLE MORE THAN AN HOUR LATER, THE FRANTIC TRIO ARRIVED IN THE HUSHED PREINCTS OF LONG ISLAND'S FABLED GOLD COAST!



ST. KNIGHT UNLEASHED A MIND-BOLT OF SUCH INCREDIBLE POWER THAT THE GATE WAS RIPPED COMPLETELY OFF ITS HINGES!



MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE FORBIDDING STONE WALLS OF THE ASHRAM-ESTATE, MASTER LUNA PREPARED TO SACRIFICE THE STILL UNCONSCIOUS TAROT?

MASTER LUNA  
IT SOMWHAT BOTHERS ME  
TWO OF OUR MEMBERS USED  
FORCE TO BRING THE GYPSY  
GIRL HERE TO  
JUDGEMENT!

TUSH  
CHILD!







THEN, FROM OUT OF THE RAGING HELL  
STEPPED TAROT, UNHARMED, UNSUNG BY  
THE BLAZE!



# PANTHA

A LITHIC, ALMOST FELINE, FORM CROUCHED TAUT AND ALERT, SENSING EVERY STRAY MOVEMENT BORNE UPON THE BREEZE!

THE QUESTING FORM WAS PANTHA THE BEAUTEOUS, RAVEN HAIRIED DRAKULONNE EXAMINED THE SUMMER NIGHT WITH HER ANIMAL-KEEN SENSES.

FOR THREE WEEKS NOW, A RAPIST HAD HELD CENTRAL PARK IN AN UNREMITTING GRIP OF TERROR! VIOLATING HIS VICTIMS BEFORE SLASHING THEM, HE MUTILATED THEIR SOFT SKIN BY CARVING HIS INITIALS DEEP INTO THEIR PANIC STRICKEN FLESH!

THE SEX-CRAZED PSYCHOPATH PLAYED A CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME WITH HIS FEMALE PREY, WHILE ELUDING POLICE PARK PATROLS. IT WAS TIME FOR PANTHA TO METE OUT A BRAND OF JUSTICE EXCLUSIVELY HER OWN.

C'MON SUCKER! I KNOW YOU'RE SOMEWHERE OUT HERE! BE A GOOD BOY AND SNAP AT THE HIGH CLASS BAITS!

## A NIGHT FULL OF ZOMBIES!



THE LOVELY CONTOURS OF PANTHA'S FACE  
BEGAN TO MELT AND MERGE

SO THAT WHERE SHE ONCE STOOD  
THERE NOW STOOD A 300-POUND BLACK  
JUNGLE SHE-BEAST WITH EYES THAT  
BURNED IN THE NIGHT LIKE GREEN-  
GLOWING COALS



INSTINCTIVELY SEEKING HIGH GROUND, PANTHA CIRCLED AROUND TO OBSERVE A HUNKED FIGURE LURKING IN THE SHADOWS BELOW.



PANTHA WAS ROUGHLY DRAGGED OFF THE DIMLY-LIT PATH. BEHIND A THICK WALL OF CONCEALING BRUSH SHE WAS THROWN DOWN HARD ONTO THE GROUND!

THE HEAVY-SET RAPIST CRUDELY POUNCED UPON HER WRITHING, RESISTING BODY. THE MORE PANTHA STRUGGLED BENEATH HIM, THE MORE HIS INSANE EXCITEMENT GREW!

WITHIN MERE MOMENTS, THE ATTACKER'S MINDLESS LUST REACHED ITS FEVERED PEAK. BUT AT THE PENULTIMATE MOMENT, HE SUDDENLY FOUND HIS LATEST VICTIM WAS MORE THAN HE EVER BARGAINED FOR







A FEAR-FILLED PHONE CALL WAS ANSWERED BY PANTHA'S BOYFRIEND, ADAM VAN HELSING

ADAM! LISTEN! YOU'RE MY ONLY FRIEND IN THIS CITY. THERE'S A BIG DRUG DEAL COMIN' DOWN

TONS OF PRIMO WEED UP FROM COLUMBIA. TONIGHT ON PIER 91!

AT THE SAME TIME, WITHIN THE POSH EAST SIDE VAN HELSING TOWNHOUSE...

HELLO? DANNY?? I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM YOU IN AGES!

WHOAH! CALM DOWN FELLA. JUST WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE YOU IN?

BUT I'M GETTIN' COLD FEET, MAN! CAN'T GO TO THE COPS WITH MY RECORD. THEY'D THROW ME IN THE SLAMMER FOR GOD KNOWS HOW LONG.

I WANT OUT! YOU'VE GOTTA HELP ME, ADAM. I-H-

AARRCHH!

DANI! DANIEL! ARE YOU THERE? ANSWER ME! I-

DANNY!

ADAM SLAMMED THE RECEIVER DOWN AND SHOUTED ORDERS TO HIS COMELY EURASIAN CHAUFFEUR-BODYGUARD!

MOONCHILD NOODLED AND RUSHED OFF TO PREPARE THE VAN HELSING CHARIOT FOR A BROKENFIELD HUN THROUGH THE HURLY-BURLY OF MANHATTAN'S TRAFFIC!

HER IMPECCABLE OXFORD ACCENT AND ANGLO-ORIENTAL RESERVE SEEMED TO MELT AWAY AS SHE DEFTLY MANEUVERED THE GLISTENING MACHINE!



ADAM PROWLED THE SEEMINGLY DESERTED WHARF, SEARCHING FOR HIS DRUG-SMUGGLING COLLEGE FRIEND WHEN SUDDENLY...

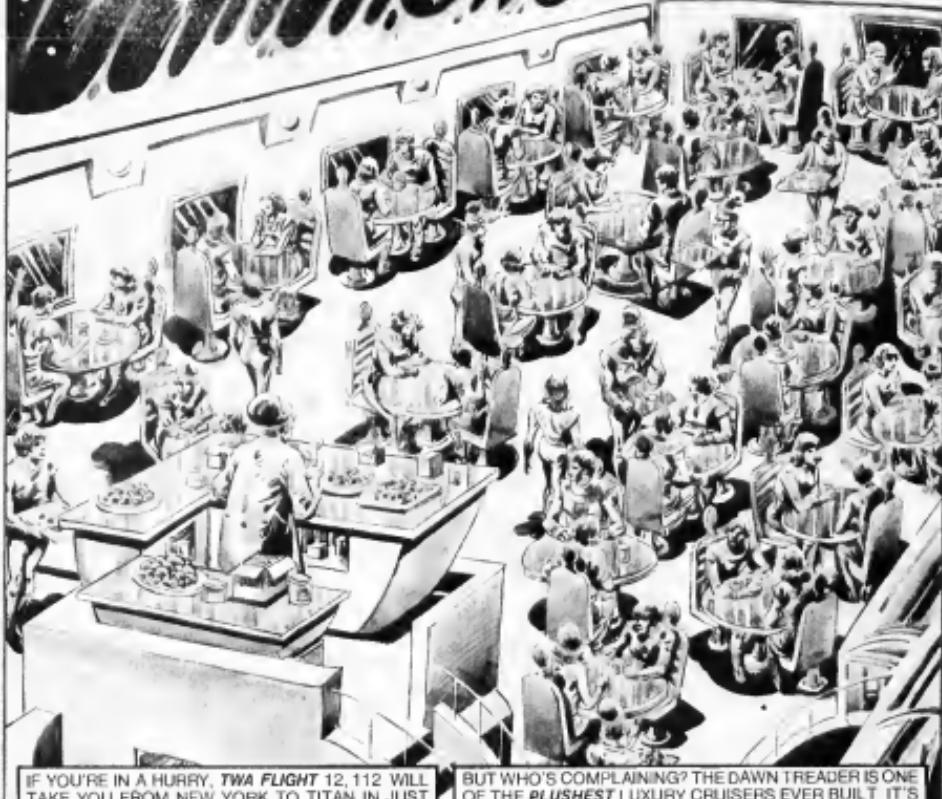








# HERSHEY'S ROCK



IF YOU'RE IN A HURRY, TWA FLIGHT 12,112 WILL TAKE YOU FROM NEW YORK TO TITAN IN JUST UNDER EIGHT DAYS. THE DAWN TREADER, HOWEVER, TAKES A FULL 675 HOURS.

BUT WHO'S COMPLAINING? THE DAWN TREADER IS ONE OF THE PLUSHEST LUXURY CRUISERS EVER BUILT. IT'S THE LOVE BOAT OF THE SPACEWAYS. THE PERFECT PLACE TO SPEND A 675 HOUR HONEYMOON.



GOOD EVENING  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN  
I'M THE SHIP'S COMMANDER  
SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE  
ENTIRE CREW OF THE **DAWN  
TREADER**. I'D JUST LIKE  
TO ANNOUNCE OUR  
SUCCESSFUL PASSAGE  
THROUGH THE **ASTEROID  
BELT**

WAIT A  
MINUTE! THAT.  
THAT CAN'T  
BE!

I CAN  
ASSURE YOU,  
MADAM, IT'S  
TRUE!

I KEEP  
TELLING HER, BUT  
SHE DOESN'T BELIEVE  
ME!

BUT...  
BUT, WHERE ARE  
THEY? THE ASTEROIDS  
I MEAN!



IT'S JUST  
UP AHEAD TO YOUR  
RIGHT. WATCH YOUR  
HEADS THROUGH THIS  
HATCH!

UH, HONEY, CAN  
WE TAKE THE ELEVATOR  
ON THE WAY BACK  
DOWN?

CAN'T  
SEE WHY NOT.  
WE'LL MISS ALL  
THIS FUN FREE  
FALL,  
THOUGH.

YOU'LL  
MISS IT!  
I SURE  
WON'T!

HERE  
WE ARE!  
THERE'S ONLY  
ONE ASTEROID  
VISIBLE TO THE  
NAKED EYE  
THROUGHOUT THE  
ENTIRE BELT. IT'S  
THAT LITTLE STAR  
RIGHT OVER  
THERE HER-  
- SHEY'S  
ROCK!

WHERE?  
YOU MEAN THAT  
BRIGHT ONE?

NO.  
THAT'S PROCYON  
DOWN AND TO THE  
LEFT

NOW I SEE IT.  
BUT WHY DO THEY CALL IT  
HERSHEY'S ROCK!

I'M GLAD  
YOU ASKED THAT.  
THERE'S AN INTERESTING LITTLE  
STORY ABOUT HERSEY'S  
ROCK !

IT ALL BEGAN  
SOME SIX DECADES  
AGO....!

THEY DIDN'T  
HAVE FUSION  
DRIVE  
SPACESHIPS  
BACK THEN, SO  
THEY USED ALL  
KINDS OF PRO-  
PULSION TRICKS  
TO MOVE  
HUMANKIND INTO  
SPACE!

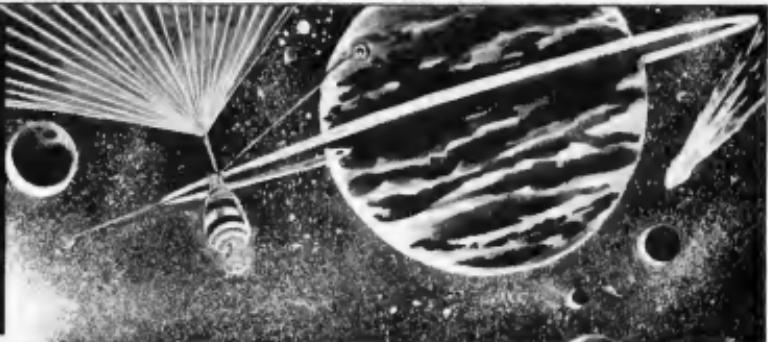
BUT NONE OF  
THEM WERE  
PRETTIER THAN  
THE SUNSAILS.  
GREAT SILVER  
BUTTERFLIES  
MILLIONS OF  
CENTIMETERS  
ACROSS, AND  
ONE MOLECUL  
THICK. THEY  
RODE THE  
PHOTON WINDS  
OF THE SUN LIKE  
THE MAJESTIC  
CLIPPERSHIP  
OF OLD. IT TOOK  
A REAL MASTER  
TO FLY 'EM, NOT  
JUST ANY OLD  
ASSEMBLY-LINE  
SPACE JOCKEW  
LIKE WE HAVE  
TODAY!

THEY WERE IN  
SHIRT-THE  
REAL SPACE  
SHIPS.

WITH NOTHING  
BUT SUNLIGHT  
AND GRAVITY TO  
POWER THE  
SHIPS, THE SUN-  
SAILORS  
COULDN'T GET  
AROUND THE  
SYSTEM ALL  
THAT QUICKLY.  
BUT, MAN...WERE  
THEY GRACEFUL!



ONE PARTICULAR CLIPPER, THE SILVER SURFER, WAS ON THE HOMEWARD LEG OF HER EARTH-TITAN RUN. AFTER EIGHT MONTHS OF INFALLING, SHE WAS JUST REACHING JUPITER. HER HALF WAY POINT



CAPTAIN WILD BILL MARSHALL, COMMANDER OF THE SILVER SURFER, TRIED TO DO A RETROGRADE HYPERBOLIC JUST OVER THE PLANE OF JUPITER'S THIN RING BELT!



AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, THE BIG CLIPPERS USED THE GIANT PLANETS FOR GRAVITY WHIPS. THE CLOSER TO ITS MASS THEY ORBITED, THE FASTER THEIR SPEED. UNTIL THEY WERE HURLED OFF LIKE MAMMOTH SHOTPUTS SPEEDING TO THEIR DESTINATION!

AND ALL, THEY HAD TO WATCH OUT FOR ARE THE LARGER PLANETS' RINGS!



YOU'LL NEVER SEE A GOOD IMAGE OF JUPITER'S RINGS FROM EARTH. YOU PRACTICALLY HAVE TO BE ON TOP OF THEM JUST TO SEE THEIR BLACK PROCESSION OVER THE PAINTED WORLD. BUT IT'S SOMETHING A MAN CAN NEVER FORGET ONCE HE SEES IT!

AND WILD BILL MARSHALL WATCHED THEM GO BY AT 180 KILOMETERS A SECOND!



NOW, YOU WOULDN'T THINK THAT FOUR OR FIVE LITTLE GRAMS OF RING DUST COULD DO MUCH HARM TO A BIG SHIP LIKE THE SURFER! BUT AT THAT SPEED, IT CARRIED THE KINETIC ENERGY OF ABOUT TWENTY KILOGRAMS OF TNT!



NOW, FOUR WEEKS WORTH OF STORED AIR IN A FEW HOURS CAN DO WONDERS FOR YOUR OUTLOOK ON LIFE. IT'S HEALTHY, ABUNDANT, DOESN'T GIVE YOU A HANGOVER AND YOU CAN'T O.D.

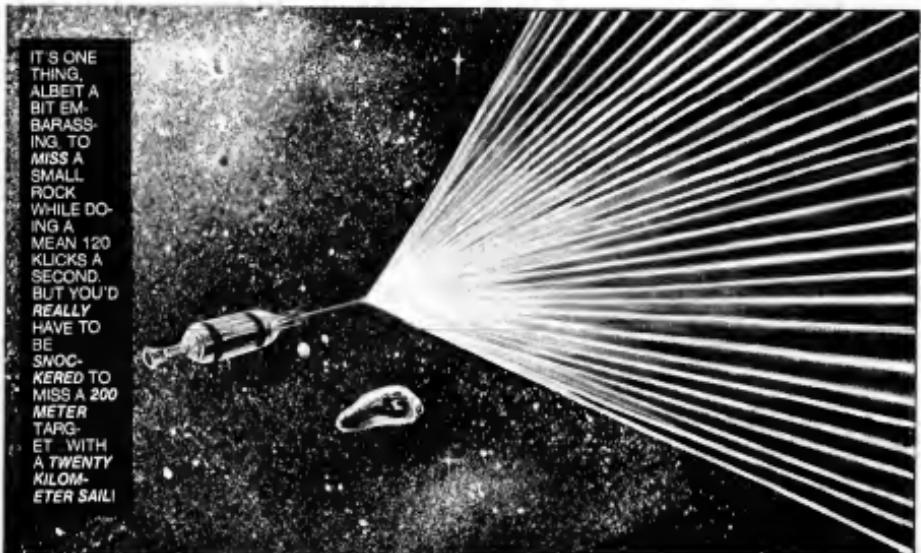
BUT I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND FLYING A SHIP WHILE OXYGEN DRUNK. HOWEVER!



TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA HOW OXY-DRUNK WILD BILL MARSHALL MUST'VE BEEN, HE WOULD'VE MISSED THAT ASTEROID BY FIFTY KILOMETERS IF ALL HAD BEEN LEFT ALONE!



AFTER FOUR DAYS OF THE DAMNDEST PARTY YOU'D EVER SEEN, THE SURFER HAPPENED TO CROSS THE PATH OF A SMALL, ANOMALY: AN IN-SIGNIFICANT BALL OF CARBON AT THE OUTER FRINGE OF THE ASTEROID BELT.



IT'S ONE THING, ALBET A BIT EM-BARASSING, TO MISS A SMALL ROCK WHILE DOING A MEAN 120 KICKS A SECOND. BUT YOU'D REALLY HAVE TO BE SNOCKED TO MISS A 200 METER TARG-ET WITH A TWENTY KILOMETER SAIL!

TO MAKE THINGS EVEN MORE COMPLICATED,  
THIS PARTICULAR ROCK HAD BEEN CLAIMED BY A  
WANDERING BELT MINER NAMED HAWKES.



AND WHEN ALL HIS  
EQUIPMENT WAS  
SWAMPED IN  
SAILFOIL, HE FILED  
THE BIGGEST  
DAMNED LAWSUIT  
FOR EVERYTHING  
FROM TRESPASS-  
ING TO LITTERING.



WHEN THE LEGAL BOYS ON BOTH SIDES GOT AHOULD  
OF THE ISSUE, THEY HAD A FIELD DAY. WILD BILL'S  
LAWYERS COULDN'T DISPROVE HAWKES' CLAIMS,  
SO THEY WERE FORCED TO COME UP WITH AN IN-  
GENIOUS ANSWER TO THEIR  
PERPLEXING DILEMMA.



THEY BOUGHT THE ASTEROID FROM HAWKES, AND THEN POINTED OUT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERSTELLAR  
SAFETY THAT THERE WERE NO NAVIGATIONAL BEACONS VISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE *WITHIN* THE ASTEROID BELT.  
BEING THE HIGH-PRICED LEGAL TALENT THAT THEY WERE, THEY SUGGESTED THAT AN ARRANGEMENT  
COULD BE MADE!





## prologue



SO MAMA SET TRAPS, BAITED WITH CASHEWS AND PEANUTS, IN THE GARAGE! THERE, IN THE CORNER BEHIND THE FAMILY TURBO-COUPE, THE HUNGRY RATS CAME OUT TO FEAST!

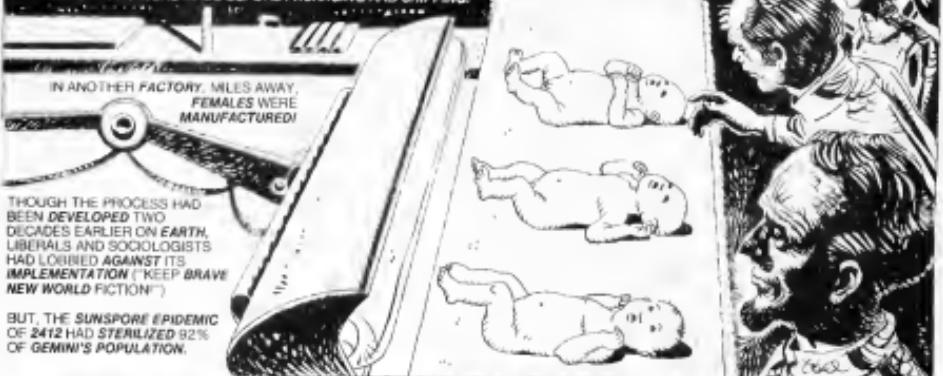
GOD, HOW THEY LOVED CASHEWS!



# WORMBRAND!



THE BABIES CAME THROUGH AT THE RATE OF FIFTEEN PER HOUR IN SEVEN PATENTED DESIGNS. ALL MALE. AFTER 'CLEAN AND SPRAY', THEY WENT TO INSPECTION WHERE FINAL MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE BEFORE PACKAGING AND SHIPPING!



THOUGH THE PROCESS HAD BEEN DEVELOPED TWO DECADES EARLIER ON EARTH, LIBERALS AND SOCIOLOGISTS HAD LOBBIED AGAINST ITS IMPLEMENTATION ('KEEP BRAVE NEW WORLD FICTION!')

BUT, THE SUNSPORSE EPIDEMIC OF 2412 HAD STERILIZED 92% OF GEMINI'S POPULATION.

GEMINI'S WORRIED POPULATION FINALLY SETTLED DOWN AS THE BABY FactORIES WENT INTO SMOOTH, EFFICIENT AND QUIET PRODUCTION

EVERY FAMILY COULD ONCE AGAIN HAVE CHILDREN, AND THE LIFE OF AN ENTIRE WORLD SEEMED TO RETURN TO NORMAL!



THERE ISN'T A FACTORY IN THE UNIVERSE THAT DOESN'T HAVE ITS LITTLE GLITCHES! AND THE GEMINI MALE BABY FACTORY #1 WAS NO EXCEPTION!

LATER, THE NEGLECTFUL EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBLE WAS SINGLED OUT BY THE CENTRAL COMPUTER AND DISMISSED!

THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF IT, BUT AS A SPITEFUL FAREWELL GESTURE, THE CANNED WORKMAN REMOVED TWO PSYCHO-GENETIC PROGRAM BOARDS!



IN 2428, WHEN NOSTALGIA FOR THE QUIET 1970'S OF VENERABLE MOTHER EARTH BECAME THE PACE, DISCO BECAME WILDLY POPULAR. THROBBING, FLASHY, AND PULSATING SINGLES BARS OPENED ON ALL PLANETS OF THE GAEN REACH



A YEAR HAD PASSED SINCE MAMA DIED. TRINA NOW LIVED ALONE IN A SMALL UPTOWN CONDO, COMMUTED BY AIR-TRAIN TO WORK BY DAY, AND HAUNTED THE DANCE HALLS BY NIGHT!



ISN'T THAT A BIT MASOCHISTIC?



ONCE THEY DECIDED TO SHARE A BABY, THEY WENT TO THE TOTS 'R' US SHOWROOM AND LOOKED OVER THE STANDARDS STOCK. THEY OPTED FOR A CUSTOM DESIGN!



THE ORDER WAS SENT TO THE MANUFACTURER AND TRINA RECEIVED A POSTCARD, TWO WEEKS LATER, SAYING THE MERCHANDISE YOU ORDERED IS NOW IN STOCK



BUT THEN, NINE MONTHS WASN'T ENOUGH TIME TO GET ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS!

OUTSIDE A WATERFRONT BAR, ALONG THE SUNSET RIVER, ALBERT BLAKE, A RETIRED GARMENT WORKER, WAS MORTALLY MUGGED AND RELIEVED OF 9 23 INTERSTELLAR CREDITS.



READING AND VERBAL SKILLS DEVELOPED AT THE AGE OF TWELVE MONTHS!



YET, IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS HE WAS, AS TRINA HAD WISHED, JUST LIKE HER LOVING

CHAPLAIN AND TRINA MONITORED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CUSTOM DESIGNED BABY WITH PATERNAL PRIDE. TIGER WORMBRAND, THOUGH COLIC AND PRONE TO CRYING AT INCONVENIENT HOURS, WAS SINGULARLY PRECOCIOUS!

TIGER WALKED AT THE AGE OF THREE MONTHS!



WITHIN A YEAR AND A HALF, THOUSANDS OF CURIOUS AND THEN ALARMING COMPLAINTS BEGAN TO FLOOD THE TOTS 'R' US SHOWROOMS!

TOMORROW MARKS THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF TIGER'S DELIVERY. I TELL YOU BO. I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW FAST THAT KID'S GROWING UP!

LAST NIGHT, HE SAT READING THE COLLECTED WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE LIKE HE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE ALL ABOUT!



SOMETIMES I THINK THE BABY FACTORIES IMPROVED ON MOTHER NATURE!



HE WAS GRATEFUL THAT HE WAS ONE OF THE LAST CHILDREN BORN OF A HUMAN WOMB ON GEMINI!

HE HOPE THAT SOMEDAY HE COULD EXPRESS THIS FEELING TO TIGER!

SHOPPING, EH? HOPE YOU HAVEN'T SPENT ALL YOUR MONEY!



CHAPLAIN INSTINCTIVELY CLUTCHED AT HIS WALLET AND THE MEASLY 32.00 CREDITS IT CONTAINED!

A SINGLE ACT OF ANGRY, EMBITTERED DESPERATION WAS ENOUGH TO END ONE HUMAN BEING'S LIFE!

AND WITH IT, ONE INDIVIDUAL'S UNIVERSE OF HOPES, DESIRES, AND ASPIRATIONS BLED AWAY UNFULFILLED.



IT WAS NO CONSOLATION. THE ONLY THING THAT COULD COMFORT HER WAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT EVERYTHING CHAPLAIN WAS AND STOOD FOR WOULD BE CARRIED ON THROUGH. TIGER

MEMORIAL SERVICES WERE HELD WHILE TIGER STAYED WITH A BABYSITTER. HE'D BE TOLD, OF COURSE, BUT SHE SAW NO REASON FOR HIM TO ATTEND!

IT WAS, COINCIDENTALLY, THE SAME DAY THAT THE LETTER FROM THE BABY FACTORY ARRIVED!



Dear Madam:

We have recently discovered a  
serious error in the product you  
recently purchased at our Tots 'R' Us  
outlet.

The management wants to  
assure you that there is no cause  
for alarm. However, the results of  
this error are unpredictable, and it  
is in the best interests of  
everyone concerned if the product  
is returned to the nearest Tots  
'R' Us outlet for examination  
and adjustment.

Thank you,

Fred Hains  
Fred C. Hains,  
Quality Control  
Supervisor

TIGER  
DIDN'T MAKE  
A HABIT  
OF READING  
TRINA'S  
MAIL.  
NONETHLESS,  
A COMMUNIQUE  
FROM THE  
BABY  
FACTORY  
HAD SPARKED  
HIS  
CURIOSITY

TIGER  
FELT A  
VAUQUE  
SENSE OF  
DREAD AS  
HE DROPPED  
THE LETTER  
DOWN THE  
INCINERATOR  
CHUTE! WHAT  
DID THEY  
WANT? WHAT  
WOULD THEY  
DO TO HIM?



AT FIRST, SHE ATTRIBUTED HIS LACK OF APPETITE TO TIGER'S ADJUSTMENT  
OVER CHAPLAIN'S DEATH



BUT WHEN SHE TOLD TIGER SHE WANTED HIM TO SEE A DOCTOR, THE  
MALADY DISAPPEARED! HE ATE, HIS ENERGY RETURNED, AND HE PLAYED  
OUTDOORS WITH OTHER CHILDREN, WHICH HE RARELY DID WHEN  
CHAPLAIN WAS ALIVE

HE CONTINUED TO MATURE AT AN ASTOUNDING  
RATE! FRIENDS FIVE TIMES HIS AGE NEVER GUESSED  
HE WAS LITTLE MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

YET, HE STILL ATE VERY LITTLE. BUT SINCE HE  
SEEMED HEALTHY ENOUGH, HER CONCERN  
DIMINISHED.



ALL THE PARENTS HAVE RESPONDED TO OUR RECALL LETTERS EXCEPT ONE! SHOULD WE SEND SOMEONE OVER TO THE WORMBRAND PLACE?

WE HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANY COMPLAINTS FROM THEM STILL SOME TIMES DEFECTS DO NOT SHOW UP UNTIL THE CHILD MATURES I SUPPOSE IT'S OUR DUTY!



GROWING MORE FRANTIC WITH EACH STEP, TRINA WALKED THREE BLOCKS NORTH, AND FOUND HERSELF ALONG THE BANKS OF THE SUNSET RIVER. HER HOARSE CRIES, AND TENDER TEARS, FILLED THE NIGHT!



BUT NEITHER TIGER NOR THE NIGHT ANSWERED!



TIGER DHOOGODI  
HIS EYES WIDENED WHEN HE SAW HER. SHE HADN'T SEEN SUCH A LOOK OF ABSOLUTE TERROR SINCE THAT TRAPPED, BEWILDERED RAT HAD DIED SO MANY YEARS AGO.



HE WAS SO MUCH LIKE CHAPLAIN, THE MAN WHOSE MEMORY SHE SO WANTED TO PRESERVE!  
BUT HE WAS SO MUCH LIKE THE RAT A CORNERED SCAVENGER CLUTCHING TENACIOUSLY TO SURVIVAL, READY TO FIGHT OR BEG FOR ONE LAST BREATH!

SHE WISHED THERE WAS SOME WAY TO SEPARATE THE BOY FROM THE BEAST! BUT, SHE COULDN'T, EVEN AS SHE STARED, HIS FACE FLICKERED ALTERNATELY, TIGER, THE RAT, TIGER, THE RAT, TIGER, THE RAT...



IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THAT RAT YEARS AGO, SHE'D NEVER HAVE FOUND THE COURAGE, BUT SHE KNEW THAT IF SHE TURNED HER BACK AND LEFT, THE RIVER MAY WELL HAVE WASHED HIM ASHORE, ALIVE, TO FEED AGAIN ON SOME OTHER INNOCENT CHILD!



WHEN THE SOUND STOPPED, SHE LOOKED DOWN AT THE SWOLLEN, PURPLE THING IN HER HANDS. SHE FELT LEADEN, AND FOR A MOMENT, FEARED SHE WOULD SINK STRAIGHT TO THE BOTTOM!



SHE KNEW TOO THAT THE ONLY THING SEPARATING HER FROM TIGER, AND FROM THAT RAT WAS THAT SHE WAS THE DROWNER AND THEY THE DROWNEE WHEN THE TIME CAME SHE WOULD PROBABLY ACT NO DIFFERENTLY THAN THEY DID!



KILLING IS NEVER EASY, NO MATTER HOW NECESSARY OR MERCIFUL.

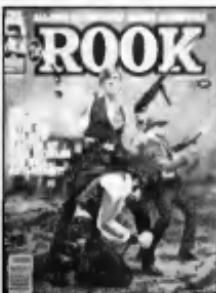
SHE WENT HOME TO CRY WHILE SHE STILL COULD!

# WARREN MAGAZINES

## THE NEW AGE OF ILLUSTRATED EPIC ADVENTURE IS READY FOR DELIVERY NOW!



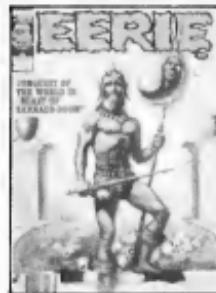
**VAMPIRELLA #97:** A nerve-fraying mind-shattering issue as the femmes fantastiques battle nightmare crew who want to rule the world! Don't miss the confrontation between an Indian mystic and his shape-shifter minion! St. Knight vs. Satan! Cuttlet! Penthe vs. Zombies!



**EROOK #9:** Exciting epic adventure as the Master of Time, Reelin Dara, saves ourselves from the far future to the distant past! Also included are the Incredible Joe Guy, the tantalizing Kronee and the leibous berberian Voltari! Don't miss the excitement!



**1994 #19:** Sizzling sin, sex & sadism await your soul with our most mind-blowing issues ever! The unknowns of the future—when technology and science vie for supremacy, primitive warriors pit blades against laser rays in a relentless struggle to live!



**EERIE #122:** Non-stop explosive action leaps from the pages of this issue! In this issue Zed Karrish avenges his betrayer, Hippether seeks to find himself! A mighty warlord meets his fate in the fabled city of Sem-add Doom! And the mystery of The Mist!



**CREEPY #128:** Frankenstein invaded! The Universal Read about it in Creepy, if you dare! Face the slimy creature that crawled from the pit in Whatever Happened to Uncle Oram? Spend a night with the Old Men in the Morgue!



**FAMOUS MONSTERS #174:** Are you ready for Friday the 13th part 27? FM gives you an exclusive look at the all-new chills & gore! Plus: Outland, the new sci-fi adventure starring Sean Connery, The Howling, Star Wars, and a startling curvey of She-Devil!

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# STAR WARS

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# STAR WARS

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STAR WARS ELECTRONIC BATTLE COMMAND An exciting new intergalactic electronic combat game which allows you to simulate the battle actions from Star Wars. From the simple to the complex, from one to three players, the new electronic game allows for any level of play! Simulate intergalactic dogfights, simulate all the elements of hyperspace action such as the landing on Magna, being impaled in a black hole and leaving your force units drained. Then contend with the hidden wrinkles of hyperspace that can bounce you into other sectors of the universe! For hours of combat thrills, play against your friends or the machine! Machine has a 9 volt transformer or a special adapter not included! #26957 \$49.95

### NEW!



### NEW!

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Use the radio control box to help Jaws escape Stormtroopers



Set up Jaws and R2-D2 at the "con box" panels



Elevator lifts R2-D2 and other STAR WARS figures into Sand Crawler



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# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

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### WHOLE HEAD MASK



**YODA MASK:** A deluxe full head color latex mask of the supreme Jedi Master. Sparkling brown eyes, life-like green skin, benign expression, light tufts of woven grey hair make this mask incredibly life-like. A fully flexible over the head mask that will fit any size head! #25013-\$39.95

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Of the movie with Luke, Leia, Han, Cloud City & more in incredible full color! 20"x28" #26043-\$2.50



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# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

STAR

**NEW!**

WARS

## ACTION FIGURES

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PRINCESS LEIA Wearing a Bespin gown and comes with black laser pistol! #26221—\$3.75



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LANDO CALRISSIAN Leader of Cloud City. He carries a black laser blaster! #26227—\$3.75

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The incredibly awesome Star Destroyer, dreaded death dealing dreadnought of the Empire, is a whopping 17" long, molded in color and comes with a display stand! Molded in the minutest detail, you will find all the surface textures of the original! Easy-to-assemble kit!!

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Rebel forces on the planet Hoth take on the evil Empire with these swift battle hardened speeders! This 8" long replica includes moving laser pods, landing gear, pilot and gunner figures and moving air brakes! This easy-to-assemble model kit includes a display stand!

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## NEW ADVENTURE SETS FROM THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK!



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ICE-PLANET

HOTH ICE-PLANET ADVENTURE SET Rebel soldiers attempt to defend their planet with radar laser cannon! But the Imperial Stormtroopers march over the molded snow peaks with all Terrain Armored Transport "wheeler"! The set also includes ice-sabers for mock action battles, plus manually operated elevator. Easily assembled.

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IMPERIAL  
ATTACK BASE

IMPERIAL ATTACK BASE Imperial forces in ice-carved trenches battle rebels with a realistic sounding laser machine gun. Hand operated ice levers create action by collapsing ice bridge, exploding a mine and blowing up the command post. Assembly required. The action figures are sold separately.

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FOR SUPERMAN COLLECTORS

**SUPERMAN PILLOW CASE!** This red, white & blue pillow case comes with the Superman logo, scenes from Krypton & of Superman flying up & over the city against a midnight blue sky! 100% colored & washable! #20125—\$3.50



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A Collection's  
Portfolio of  
Original Art!

**SUPERMAN PORTFOLIO:** 12 fabulous paintings of the man and sets from the Superman movie. 11" x 14". Finest stock paper in full color (and suitable for framing)! #21254—\$7.95



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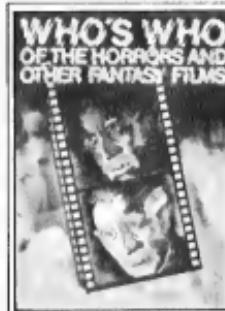


**SUPERMAN CUT-OUTS:** Three action packed, 11" x 14" scenes from the movie, of Krypton, Kansas and Metropolis. Just cut, color, paste and assemble for hours of fun! #21355—\$7.95



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**WHO'S WHO!  
EVERYTHING ON  
EVERYONE IN ALL  
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**WHO'S WHO OF THE HORRORS  
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ORIGINAL EXCLUSIVE! AVAILABLE  
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Now you can own all 65 cards and 11 gum-backed stickers from the rare 50th anniversary of STAR WARS bubblegum trading cards! These are no longer available in stores or from the manufacturer and prices on the collectors market are soaring! We have a limited number of these complete sets. Each card and sticker measures 2 1/8" x 3 1/8" and is in full color. Once our original collection is gone, this offer cannot be repeated. ORDER YOURS NOW! 1 complete set of 65 cards #26263-\$9.95  
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## STAR WARS

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BONUS!



**EXTRA!**  
Order these complete sets of 65 cards and they will be sent to you in the original gumcard box! This carton folds open into a spectacular STAR WARS display or for your personal belongings!

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# STAR WARS

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AT YOUR COMMAND IN  
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OF STRATEGY AND CHANCE



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CLOSE ENCOUNTERS. The movie that started it all. Science fiction at its best about the epochal visit of aliens to Earth. We are not alone! All the action and adventure plus the fantastic music from the original. 18 minutes, 400 foot super 8 in a superb color & sound film! #22125-\$59.95



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To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

### ZODAR ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Zooming in from the far reaches of outer galactic space, ZODAR, alien from the planet Tobar, on the far side of the Blue Drift in the Andromeda Galaxy, unleashes his neutron energized propellers against the helpless inhabitants of the Milky Way. This star wars hover-warrior comes equipped with 2 windup propellers that can fly up to 10 feet! Zodar's movable, jointed arms can crush men, protoplasm. Painted in barbaric reds and yellows, Zodar.

#26092—\$2.50

## ACTION ATTACK WARRIORS

### ZOARK ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

Far out in the bleak reaches of the Lesser Mellanic Clouds, the robot world of Thael Hatra, was devastated by a quick and total attack from the battle-weary forces of Tobar. In the Andromeda Galaxy, Thaelians mining their systems starward belt survived the holocaust. Struck to the very depths of his bio-chemical heart, at Inch Zoark has sworn to exact vengeance from all Andromedans. Zoark's steel, blue and black colors, jointed arm and deadly proton-propeller canannons ready to kill. Can he save the milky way?

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EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

1981  
CALENDAR



## THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

### 1981 CALENDAR

1981 EMPIRE STRIKES BACK CALENDAR 12 fabulous 12½" x 13" full color pictures from the best movie of 1980! Also included is a full color centerfold of the battle on the ice planet Hoth between rebel forces and those of the Empire! Centerfold is 24½" x 13". In full blazing color! Included are the mystic Yoda, Darth Vader, a saber fight between Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Han Solo and all your favorite droids! Don't miss this calendar! #25268—\$6.95

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# THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

## TAUNTAUN ACTION FIGURE



**TAUNTAUN ACTION CREATURE** The incredible snow creature from the ice planet Hoth that carries Han Solo on a dangerous mission across the icy wastes. An especially designed trap door on the Tauntaun's back allows for the insertion of your action figure. When the action figure is removed, the trap door closes. The Tauntaun stands on his hind legs which are moveable as are his paws. This action figure is molded in detailed gray and brown plastic for that specifically furry appearance! #26231—\$12.95

## SPECTACULAR NEW ART BOOK FROM THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK!



**THE ART OF THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK:** One hundred and seventy six pages of spectacular photographs and paintings from the most spectacular movies in years! The Empire Strikes Back! Printed on the highest quality glossy stock in an oversized 9" x 12" softcover format! All in full dazzling color! Production painting, matte drawings, sketches, photos and more! #26232—\$15.95

## TWIN POD CLOUD CAR



**TWIN POD CLOUD CAR** This crimson cloud car cruises the crimson skies of the vital mining colony of Bespin. Pods have clear canopies that open and close easily for entry of your action figures. The cloud car comes complete with manually operable landing gear for fast take-offs and landings! #26235—\$11.95

## ARMORED SNOWSPEEDER



**ARMORED SNOW SPEEDER** This highly maneuverable speeder is used to defend the rebel base on the ice planet Hoth! Cockpit canopy opens to admit the pilot and gunner action figures. Completes with pulsating lasers and laser sound plus removable harpoon for hand combat! Batteries not included. #26236—\$21.95

## FANTASTIC LIGHT SWITCH COVERS



**STAR WARS SWITCHEROO:** Your favorite characters fluoresce pink and blue during the day and then turn on with a golden glow. Light up the night tonight! #26240—\$4.49  
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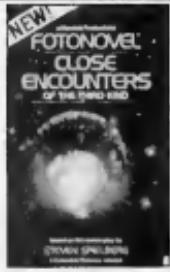
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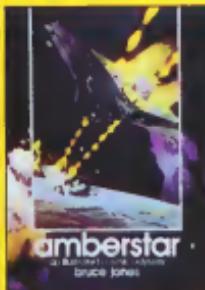
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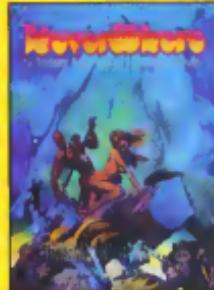
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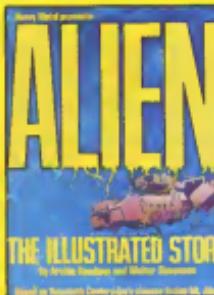
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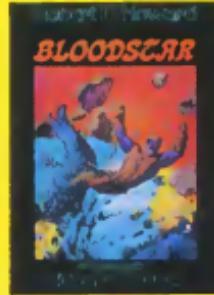
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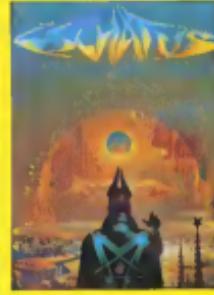
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